

Chase LaSpisa

341 Schaeffer Hall | Iowa City, Iowa 52242 | claspisa@uiowa.edu | chaselaspisa.github.io

NATIONAL HONORS

Fulbright Grantee, 24-25 Fulbright U.S Study/Research Grant Award to Norway 2024-2025

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Political Science, **University of Iowa** May 2026 (expected)

Dissertation: “*Maritime Zones of Contention: The Effect of Offshore Fossil-Fuel Resources on Maritime International Conflict and Cooperation*”

Committee: Sara Mitchell (chair), Brian Lai, Frederick Boehmke, Krista Wiegand

M.A. Political Science, **University of Iowa** December 2021

B.A. Political Science, **Oklahoma State University** May 2020

Minors: Economics & Russian Language and Literature

Summa Cum Laude & Honors College Degree

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

LaSpisa, Chase. 2025. “Dangerous Development: The Effect of Offshore Fossil-Fuel Discovery and Production on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict”. *International Interactions* 25 (1): 29-57. [\[Link\]](#)

LaSpisa, Chase and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell. 2025. “Testing the Waters: Exploring Why Democracies Have More Maritime Conflict”. *Foreign Policy Analysis* 21 (2): 1-15. [\[Link\]](#)

PAPERS UNDER REVIEW

LaSpisa, Chase. “The Oil-Repression Nexus: Oil Reliance and Government Incentives to Repress”

WORKING PAPERS

LaSpisa, Chase. The Impact of Border-Proximate Offshore Oil Resources on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict”

LaSpisa, Chase. “Revisiting the Resource Location-Conflict Link: The Impact of Natural Resource Proximity on Local Civil Conflict Intensity”

Millerd, Carly and **Chase LaSpisa**. “Protesting the Patriarchy: Public Gender Attitudes and Women’s Mobilization”

Millerd, Carly and **Chase LaSpisa**. “When it Rains, it Pours: The Effect of Natural Disasters on Low-Scale Social Conflict”

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Conflict and Political Violence, Maritime Conflict and Cooperation,
Environmental/Natural Resource Politics, Social Mobilization, Resource Curse

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Consultant , <i>Ulowa Center for Social Science Innovation</i>	Fall 2023-present
Research Assistant , <i>Cooperation in Civil Wars</i>	Fall 2023-Summer 2024
Editorial Assistant , <i>American Political Science Review</i>	Fall 2022-Summer 2023
Editorial Assistant , <i>Foreign Policy Analysis</i>	Spring 2021-Summer 2022
Research Assistant , <i>Issue Correlates of War</i>	Summer 2021

HONORS, AWARDS, & FELLOWSHIPS

University of Iowa Post-Comprehensive Fellowship , Declined	Spring 2024
Lynne Rienner Award for Best Paper Presented by a Graduate Student, International Studies Association	Fall 2023
Delegate , Bridging the Gap New Era Workshop, University of Denver	Fall 2023
Best Seminar Paper , Departmental Award, University of Iowa	Fall 2022
Graduate College Recruitment Fellowship , University of Iowa	Spring 2020
NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates , University of North Texas	Summer 2019

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Distinct Impacts of Offshore Oil and Offshore Natural Gas on Maritime Conflict”
American Political Science Association. Philadelphia, PA. Fall 2024.
- “From Land to Sea: The Domestic Origins of Maritime Conflict over Fossil-Fuel Resources”
International Studies Association. San Francisco, CA. Spring 2024.
- “Testing the Waters: Exploring Why Democracies Have More Maritime Conflict” with Sara McLaughlin Mitchell
International Studies, Midwest. St Louis, MO. Fall 2023.
- “Maritime Zones of Contention: The Impact of Maritime Border-Proximate Offshore Oil Resources on Diplomatic Conflict”
European Political Science Association. Glasgow, Scotland. June 2023.
- “Revisiting the Resource Location-Conflict Link: The Impact of Natural Resource Proximity on Local Civil Conflict Intensity”
International Studies Association. Montréal, Québec, Canada. Spring 2023.
- “Fishing for Oil: The Effect of Offshore Oil and Natural Gas Reserves on Maritime Diplomatic Conflict”
International Studies, Midwest. St Louis, MO. Fall 2022.

TEACHING INTERESTS

International Relations, Interstate Conflict, Civil Conflict, Foreign Policy, Conflict Management, Maritime International Relations, Social Mobilization, Natural Resource Politics, Research Design

TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Primary Instructor

International Conflict

Fall 2025

Workshop Instructor, Iowa Social Science Research Center

Introduction to Stata

Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

Introduction to Data Visualization using Stata

Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa

Introduction to American Foreign Policy (online)

Fall 2021-Fall 2022

Introduction to International Relations

Spring 2021

Introduction to American Foreign Policy

Fall 2020

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Oklahoma State University

Introduction to Comparative Politics

Spring 2019

Mentorship, Department of Political Science

Peer Mentor for Incoming Graduate Students

2021- Present

Undergraduate Research Assistant Mentor

Spring, Fall 2023

Mentored and managed two undergraduate research assistants on a project

collecting longitude and latitude data on maritime disputes and taught them the

basics of the research and data collection process.

ACADEMIC SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

Reviewer, International Interactions

2024 - Present

At-large Board Member, International Studies Association-Midwest

2022 - 2024

Vice-President, Graduate Association of Political Science, University of Iowa

2021 - 2023

Student Union Rep., Graduate Association of Political Science, University of Iowa

2020 - 2021

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

International Studies Association

Bridging the Gap

American Political Science Association

ANALYTICAL & TECHNICAL SKILLS

Software: Stata, R, Tableau, QGIS, ArcGIS, Microsoft Office, SPSS, Qualtrics, and Python (basic)

REFERENCES

Sara McLaughlin Mitchell

Professor and Collegiate Fellow

University of Iowa

Sara-Mitchell@uiowa.edu

Brian Lai

Associate Professor

University of Iowa

Brian-Lai@uiowa.edu

Elizabeth Menninga

Associate Professor

University of Iowa

Elizabeth-Menninga@uiowa.edu